City of Saskatoon

2005 Report to Citizens

Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER. 1

CORE STRATEGIES
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. 2
- FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY. 3
- SERVICE DELIVERY. 4
- CUSTOMER SERVICE 4

SASKATOON'S WATER . . . . . CENTRE SPREAD
- CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

CORE STRATEGIES CONTINUED
- ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT. 5
- INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT 6
- ABORIGINAL PARTNERSHIPS. 6
- MULTICULTURAL COOPERATION. 7
- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT 7
- COMMUNITY SAFETY 7

COMMUNITY PARTNERS 8
- MENDEL ART GALLERY
- SASKATOON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- TCU PLACE
- CREDIT UNION CENTRE

Top Image: Excerpts copied from the original minutes of the inaugural meeting of Saskatoon City Council (June 26, 1906)

Saskatoon was incorporated as a city on May 26, 1906

City of Saskatoon

100 Saskatoon Our time to shine — 2006 —

2006 Cultural Capitals of Canada / Capitales culturelles du Canada

Message to Our Citizens

Saskatoon had one of Canada's fastest growing economies in 2005. The boom was evident in exciting developments around the city, from River Landing to downtown construction to new neighbourhoods. This 2005 Report to Citizens highlights the year's accomplishments and provides a look forward to 2006, Saskatoon's Centennial year … our time to shine!

Phil Richards

PHIL RICHARDS
CITY MANAGER
MAY 2006

Saskatoon Berry Photo courtesy Tourism Saskatoon

City of Saskatoon

New 25th Street Streetscape

Economic Development

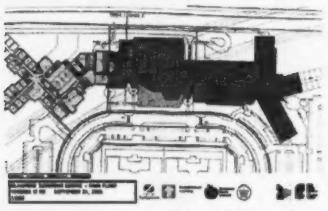
CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT ENCOURAGES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

The transformation of Saskatoon's south downtown was symbolic of the rejuvenation and growth happening across the city in 2005.

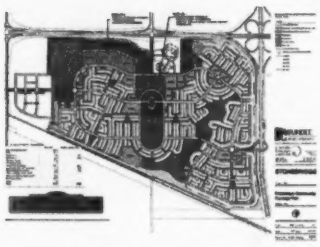
- At River Landing, the new shoreline and shore walls, stairs from the riverfront to backshore lands, river outlooks, and a pedestrian bridge were all completed. The City reached an agreement with Persephone Theatre for a new live performance theatre, and with Remai Ventures Inc. for a hotel/spa and restaurant complex at the site. The national commissioning process for the Century Plaza landmark received 25 submissions from international, national, and local artists, designers and architects. City Council selected Prairie Wind by Lee-Koopman Projects/Friggstad Downing Henry Architects.
- In August 2005, construction began on the 12-screen, 2,600-seat Galaxy Cinemas at the corner of 2nd Avenue and 20th Street. The screens will light up in summer 2006.
- To facilitate redevelopment of the north downtown, the City completely reconstructed five blocks of 25th Street.
- City Council approved the concept plan for the West Sector and Stonebridge neighbourhood.
- Between 2000 and 2005, the City's Enterprise Zone encouraged $21 million worth of growth and redevelopment in core neighbourhoods.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

The River Landing Century Plaza landmark and revitalized riverfront will be unveiled in 2006. Phase II of River Landing includes plans for a new Farmers' Market/business support centre/village square, as well as a subdivision plan featuring low-rise waterfront apartments, mid-rise apartments, and live/work housing. The City will also continue to facilitate redevelopment of the north downtown by extending 25th Street to Idylwyld Drive.



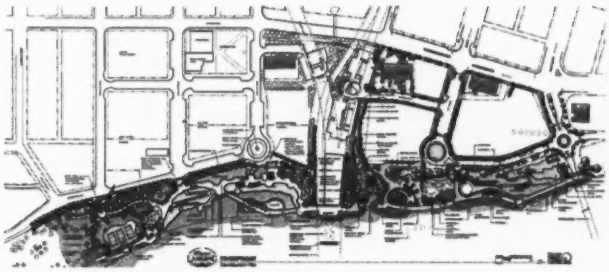
Blairmore Suburban Centre



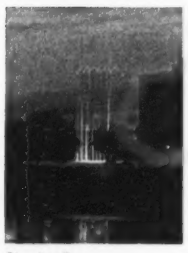
Stonebridge Neighbourhood Concept Plan

River Landing Phase I

River LANDING



Riverfront Park Phase I & II



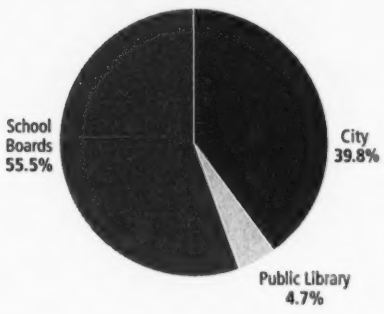
River Landing
Century Plaza Landmark:
Prairie Wind

City of Saskatoon

Fiscal Responsibility

MANAGE THE COLLECTION, STEWARDSHIP, AND ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS IN THE DELIVERY OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES IN A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE WAY.

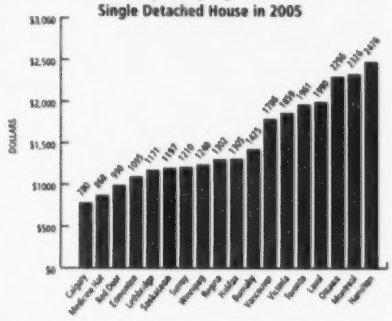
2005 Distribution of Property Taxes



A key element in the City's core strategy of fiscal responsibility is ensuring that future generations are not financially responsible for the benefits enjoyed by today's residents. To do this – and maintain current levels of service – the City uses the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a benchmark for future property tax increases, fees, and charges.

- During 2005, the current level of service was maintained within the CPI; however, approved service enhancements impacted both property taxes and utility rates.
- The City continued its "pay as you go" philosophy for recurring capital investments. Opportunities arising from the federal government's "New Deal" were incorporated into a long-term capital financing program that included potentially leveraging these funds for strategic borrowing to address the City's infrastructure backlog.
- The City also continued to explore alternate sources of revenue, pursued confirmation of federal transit funding, and re-examined the process for determining provincial revenue sharing.

Municipal Property Tax for a Single Detached House in 2005



Source: City of Edmonton, November 2005. For a 25-30 year old detached, 1200 square foot house with 3 bedrooms, double car garage and finished basement on a 6000 square foot lot. Municipal property taxes do not include school board taxes.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at December 31, 2005 (in thousands of dollars)

	2004	2005
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 75,599	$ 85,889
Taxes Receivable	9,639	10,375
Accounts Receivable and User Charges	46,953	49,978
Loan Receivable	-	7,037
Land Inventory for Resale	18,194	24,859
Other Assets	4,336	8,503
Investments	127,209	129,451
Accrued Pension Asset	96,870	84,811
Total Financial Assets	378,800	400,903
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	54,010	68,118
Deferred Revenue – Development Charges	13,617	16,051
Long-Term Liabilities	23,192	48,125
Employee Benefits Payable	17,326	19,440
Total Financial Liabilities	108,145	151,734
Total Net Financial Assets	270,655	249,169
MUNICIPAL POSITION		
Fund Balances	314,310	311,139
Amounts to be recovered	(26,329)	(42,530)
Unfunded Employee Benefits	(17,326)	(19,440)
Total Net Municipal Position	$ 270,655	$ 249,169

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2005 (in thousands of dollars)

	2004 Actual	2005 Budget (unaudited)	2005 Actual
REVENUES			
Taxation	$92,013	$ 97,082	$ 97,795
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	20,004	21,334	21,332
Services Provided to Other Governments	1,261	785	803
Sale of Services	17,932	18,516	18,461
Other Revenue from Own Sources	30,956	32,400	33,803
Transfers from Other Governments	13,586	13,094	13,462
Other Transactions	17,136	17,780	17,808
Total Revenues for the Year	192,888	200,991	203,464
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	25,738	28,120	27,995
Protection of Persons and Property	72,116	75,123	75,676
Transportation & Communications	38,887	40,556	40,543
Environmental Health	6,054	6,013	6,265
Social and Family Services	3,946	4,012	3,761
Planning and Development	13,491	13,942	13,846
Recreation and Cultural Services	27,072	28,774	28,178
Debt Servicing Costs	4,249	4,451	4,494
Total Expenditures for the Year	191,553	200,991	200,758
SURPLUS	$ 1,335	$ -	$ 2,706

City of Saskatoon

Service Delivery

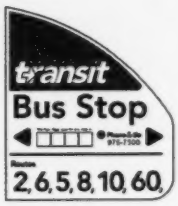
OPTIMIZE THE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF SERVICES.

SASKATOON transit

Phone & Go

Click & Go

A new automated telephone and internet information system will provide customers with up-to-date schedules, next bus information and general, route-specific, or stop-specific public service bulletins.



To meet the needs of a growing population, the City of Saskatoon continued to work with community partners and explored alternate service delivery methods.

- The new Transit Strategic Plan was introduced. It includes route changes, a new bus rapid transit (BRT) service and 17 new state-of-the-art buses, including four hybrid/diesel buses that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These changes will take place in July 2006. City Council also approved a new downtown transit terminal at the existing location. Enhanced customer service will include new bus terminals at the University of Saskatchewan and Market Mall.
- The City initiated a pilot project to allow drivers to make parking meter payments via their cell phones.
- Phase II of the biodiesel transit research project was completed in December and the City met with Western Economic Diversification to request support to continue the project in 2006.
- The City partnered with the University of Saskatchewan, the National Research Council, and various local companies on a pilot-scale demonstration project for landfill gas collection and monitoring. The City received approval from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for $262,500 in Green Municipal Enabling Funds.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

The City will partner with the school boards to develop an environmental curriculum for grades K-8.

SASKATOON LIGHT & POWER

Reliable . Responsive .

New look for the Electric Branch

New P.A.L. Card

New Leisure Online Service

Customer Service

CUSTOMERS COME FIRST – PROVIDE RESPONSIVE AND FLEXIBLE CUSTOMER SERVICE.

The City of Saskatoon's "customers come first" strategy continued to earn high marks. In the 2005 Civic Services Survey, 88% of citizens rated the value received for their municipal tax dollars as good or very good.

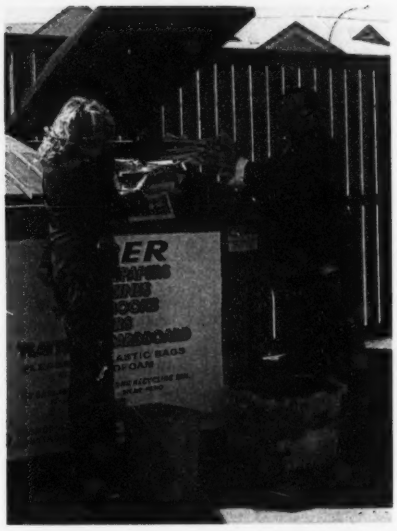
- The City's Leisure Services Online program registration enjoyed a successful debut in December 2005. Of a total 2,298 registrations, 836 or 36% were completed through Leisure Online.
- The City revised its property tax notice to better illustrate how taxes are distributed among the City of Saskatoon, Public or Catholic School Board, and Library.
- The Pet-At-Large (PAL) card was introduced. It featured quick reference information, key phone numbers, and a running-at-large fine/pound fee waiver.
- As part of a branding strategy to differentiate itself from SaskPower, the name of the Electric System Branch was changed to Saskatoon Light & Power.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

New website technology will make civic service delivery even more responsive – with on-line meter reading, parking ticket payments, parking permits, interactive map, tendering service, building permits, and licenses.

Environmental Commitment

EXERCISE RESPONSIBLE, PROGRESSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE PROVISION OF ALL CIVIC SERVICES.



Councillor Dubois (Ward 10) and Mayor Atchison opening the new University Heights recycling depot

The City of Saskatoon is committed to ensuring that future generations enjoy the benefits of responsible environmental management.

- To maximize the life of the landfill, the City initiated discussions to implement a composting pilot project, approached Habitat for Humanity to discuss ways of diverting useable materials from the landfill, and began the first stage of construction of the new south cell at the landfill. A fifth recycling depot was opened in the University Heights area, Household Hazardous Waste Days were held in the spring and fall to divert toxic items from the landfill, and civic Environmental Protection Officers continued to promote recycling and waste diversion.
- Construction of the sludge handling facility at the Water Treatment Plant began in 2005. The facility will ensure that sludge from water treatment processes is handled in a more environmentally safe manner and not released back into the river.
- Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS) received $49,000 from the federal-provincial Joint Emergency Preparedness Program to help purchase a Haz-Mat SensID System to identify unknown liquids and solids at emergency scenes.
- City Council endorsed the Environmental Management System (EMS) policy statement. The EMS records and improves the City's environmental performance by optimizing costs, and reducing wasted raw materials as well as waste disposal costs.
- The City continued to work with the University of Saskatchewan and consultants to assess the feasibility of green energy, including wind power and using municipal solid waste to generate electricity.
- Sound attenuation walls were constructed on Idylwyld Drive; the bicycle network was expanded along Attridge Drive, Boychuk Drive, Circle Drive, and 14th Street; and the replacement of traffic signal bulbs with longer-lasting, energy-saving light emitting diodes (LEDs) continued.
- Remediation of the former A.L. Cole power plant site was completed, except for 2,500 tonnes of material to be removed in 2006, opening the way for part of the south downtown redevelopment.
- As a part of its commitment to meet Greenhouse Gas Emission Targets, the City established a greenhouse gas baseline, reduction targets, and corporate reduction strategy. The City also applied for funding to complete a Local Action Plan.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

The City will open another recycling depot near Market Mall, initiate a downtown recycling bin pilot project, develop a Waste Management Strategy, and implement a pilot composting program. Construction is also slated to begin on the new water intake upstream of the landfill. The upgrade and expansion of the grit and screen facility will be the first initiative at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, followed by the odour abatement plan in the future.

Saskatoon Recycles!

New LED traffic lights

Bike lane along Preston Avenue

New sound attenuation walls north of 9th Street East

City of Saskatoon

Plan of north river crossing

Infrastructure Management

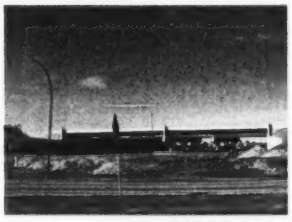
BUILD, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE THE CITY'S INFRASTRUCTURE IN A MANNER THAT MAXIMIZES CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURE, FOSTERS GROWTH, AND IS FISCALLY SUSTAINABLE.

Roads, sewers, bridges, neighbourhoods – this infrastructure is the foundation of healthy growth for any city. The City of Saskatoon responded to the city's growth with a number of major projects.

- Studies on a north river crossing and south river crossing were completed, and widening of the Circle Drive Bridge was approved as part of the 2006 Capital Budget.
- Design and construction work continued in several new neighbourhoods. In Willowgrove, 225 lots were designed for servicing and 64 lots were completed. Thirty-eight residential lots and three multi-family sites in Hampton Village were serviced, and 83 residential lots were serviced in Briarwood.
- A review to determine the condition of the City's sanitary sewer system progressed through 2005. In the meantime, spot repairs using trenchless technology provided a new, less expensive method of rehabilitation.
- The City continued to encourage infill development through initiatives such as the Enterprise Zone, Urban Development Agreement, and tax incentives.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

The City of Saskatoon will continue to address issues that impact growth, including final design of a south river crossing, completion of the overpass at College Drive and Circle Drive, and widening of the Circle Drive Bridge.



College Drive & Circle Drive overpass construction (2006)

Aboriginal Partnerships

BUILD ON THE STRENGTHS OF OUR EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES.

New core neighbourhood residence

The City of Saskatoon continues to collaborate with federal, provincial and Aboriginal governments on urban Aboriginal issues.

- In 2005, the City provided ongoing support to the Central Urban Métis Federation Inc. and Quint Development Corporation to deal with housing issues in core neighbourhoods. City Council also approved a $50,000 contribution to the innovative Pleasant Hill activity house plan.
- The City reached a servicing agreement with the Muskeg Lake First Nation to expand development of their Sutherland site. An agreement was also reached with the One Arrow First Nation for development of a reserve on 20th Street West.
- Under the City's Fire Services Agreement, Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services continued monthly volunteer firefighter training sessions for the Whitecap Dakota First Nation.
- To promote awareness of City of Saskatoon employment opportunities, the City made presentations to the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology, First Nations University, University of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Students Union, Saskatoon Tribal Council, and St. Mary's School.

COMING ATTRACTIONS 2006-2008

Over the next two years, the City will develop a Roles and Responsibilities of Good Rentership program in conjunction with the Saskatoon Tribal Council. It will also continue to pursue affordable housing initiatives and facilitate implementation of the Pleasant Hill activity house concept.

Anne Frank In The World Exhibit

Multicultural Cooperation

RECOGNIZE THE CULTURAL DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT GROWTH THROUGH IMMIGRATION.

Multiculturalism adds to the unique fabric of Saskatoon communities.

- The City of Saskatoon continued to work with the federal and provincial governments as well as with the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority (SREDA) to encourage expanded immigration to Saskatchewan and Saskatoon. In 2005, the City hired consultants to explore employment opportunities and retention of immigrants in Saskatoon.
- In May 2005, Saskatoon hosted the Anne Frank in the World Exhibit, which addressed intolerance and racism.

JUNOSKO7

Saskatoon won the bid in 2005 to host the 2007 Junos, March 29-April 1, 2007

New Year's Eve 2005 in front of City Hall

Community Development

ENABLE ACTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED PARTICIPATION IN ISSUE AND PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION, AND RESOLUTION.

Community development involves working closely with community partners to ensure quality of life is something all residents enjoy.

- Demonstration projects in core neighbourhoods addressed the issue of affordable housing. The City also developed a safe housing certification program to address deteriorating housing in core neighbourhoods. City Council approved an agreement with the Department of Community Resources and Employment that will provide inspection of more than 1,000 rental properties a year under the Home First Rental Supplement Program.
- Community association members and community residents held their first official meeting in the newly completed Briarwood Community Centre in November 2005.
- City Council approved a concept plan for the West Sector that included funding for Phase I development of a civic leisure facility integrating both public and Catholic high schools.
- For the second year, City Council held ward meetings to meet with residents. Over 400 people attended a total of ten public meetings, one in every ward. The Mayor, ward Councillors, and City staff were on hand to answer questions and listen to concerns.
- The Saskatoon Citizens' Centennial Committee continued preparations to help residents and community groups "centennialize" their 2006 events and help Saskatoon celebrate its 100th anniversary.

CULTURAL CAPITALE CAPITAL CULTURELLE
***of* CANADA *du* CANADA**

In 2005, Saskatoon was designated a Cultural Capital of Canada for 2006 by the Department of Canadian Heritage. With this designation comes funding of 75 percent of total eligible costs of up to $2 million, to celebrate and build a legacy for arts and culture in Saskatoon. The funding will enable the City to celebrate our centennial, including the history of arts and culture in Saskatoon, assist arts and heritage organizations, as well as festivals, to profile and promote their programming and build a cultural legacy for the future.

Community Safety

OPTIMIZE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR COMMUNITY.

The City continued to respond to the health and safety needs of a growing population in 2005.

- Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services (SFPS) completed fire protection plans for future growth in the east side and northwest sector.
- A meeting of key stakeholders led SFPS to coordinate the formation of a Safe Housing Initiative with various municipal and provincial stakeholders, who will share resources to address substandard and unsafe housing conditions.
- A full scale evacuation exercise dubbed Operation Elvis was conducted in October 2005. It included the evacuation of seniors from four high rise buildings in the downtown area, and transportation to a reception centre.
- The City continued its proactive approach to crime prevention and reduction. Efforts included consultation and partnership with Saskatchewan Justice, Saskatchewan Corrections and Public Safety, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, Saskatoon Tribal Council, and Métis Nation - Saskatchewan.
- The Saskatoon Police Service also continued to coordinate the Crime Reduction Steering Committee to address break and enter crimes and gang related issues. The City Planning Branch worked with representatives from Fire and Police on a committee for a Crime Free Multi-housing and a Safe Neighbourhood Program.

COMING ATTRACTIONS – 2006-2008

In 2006, the City will purchase a new fire engine and hire 14 new firefighters for an east side fire station. In 2007/2008, it will design, construct and staff a new fire station in the Lakewood Suburban Centre. In 2008/2009, the City will design, construct and staff a new fire station in the Westview neighbourhood.

The disaster simulation of Operation Crushed Can also ran in 2005

Community Partners

MENDEL ART GALLERY

2005 was a memorable year for the Mendel Art Gallery, filled with many achievements of which Saskatoon can be extremely proud. The Mendel contributed to the understanding and appreciation of the visual arts through the presentation of outstanding exhibitions and dynamic public programming that attracted 184,154 visitors; played a primary role in marking Saskatchewan's centenary as a province; and further advanced the most ambitious initiative in the Gallery's history _ the "Expanding the Vision" Facility Renovation and Expansion Project.

The Gallery hosted two major travelling exhibitions, Nicolas Baier: *Scenes de genre* (Genre Paintings) and Evan Penny: *Absolutely Unreal*. Saskatchewan's centenary provided the impetus for the presentation of *100 Years of Saskatchewan Art:* Artwork from the Permanent Collection of the Mendel Art Gallery; *Street Signs:* The Artists of Erindale; and special lobby displays that showcased Don Hefner's *Don't Fence Me In*, paid tribute to the legendary singer, songwriter, and visual artist, Joni Mitchell. The Gallery also collaborated on the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala Artists' Walk (for future installation as part of the site development of the expanded facility).

But the year's two largest and most critically significant centennial projects were *Marking Time* and *Telling Details. Marking Time* featured the diverse work of artists Lorne Beug, Dana Claxton, David Geary, George Glenn, Edward Poitras, Sandra Semchuck & James Nicholas, Danny Singer, and Margaret Vanderhaeghe to explore ideas about place, history, and time, while *Telling Details* presented the work of Saskatchewan's most acclaimed architect, Clifford Wiens.

In 2005, with funding from the Cultural Spaces Canada Program (Canadian Heritage), and with the requisite municipal funding, the Gallery proceeded with Phase #1 of the

Mendel Art Gallery (conceptual drawing of expansion)

Facility Renovation and Expansion Project. Development of the Working Design Construction Drawings by Kindrachuk Agrey Architecture, in association with Lundholm Associates Architects, was initiated, and restoration of the original skylights was completed. A full-time campaign manager was contracted for the "Expanding the Vision" Capital Campaign.

The Mendel Art Gallery is extremely grateful for the support of members, donors, and sponsors, and of the Mendel Art Gallery Foundation, which is committed to raising funds through their annual event, "The Magic of the Mendel". The Mendel is also grateful to its primary funders: the City of Saskatoon, the Saskatchewan Arts Board, Saskatchewan Lotteries, the Canada Council for the Arts, and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

SASKATOON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Saskatoon Public Library remains one of the busiest library systems in the country, keeping pace with an engaged public through a blend of tradition and technology.

In 2005, library patrons signed out 4,000,000 items, establishing another record year. For the past 15 years, Saskatoon Public Library has ranked as one of the top three large urban library systems in Canada in terms of circulation statistics (number of items borrowed). Meanwhile, the Library web site www.saskatoonlibrary.ca continues to attract the online community, with the number of web visits increasing dramatically every year.

A strong community focus saw Library staff in city malls promoting e-library services, and working with schools through resource-based field trips and programs. As well, the Library continued to support the writing community through a Writer in Residence program, which is celebrating its 25 anniversary in 2005/2006.

Library staff take to the city malls to promote e-library services

The annual provincial summer reading program, coordinated by the Saskatchewan Library Association, was sponsored in 2005 by the TD Bank. Saskatoon Public Library staff presented reading certificates to 1,647 proud Saskatoon and area children, who read a total of 51,971 books.

Meanwhile, a provincial grant enabled the Library to continue its efforts to build bridges to the Aboriginal community. In 2005, the grant initiatives included: Stories in the Park Summer program; meetings of the Library's Advisory Committee on Library Service for Aboriginal Peoples; a Literacy Outreach project; an oral history project *Enduring Values*; as well as an enhancement of the Library's First Nations and Métis resources.

Capital projects remained a priority – and a challenge – as the Library Board continued to explore options for developing a new central library, a new Riversdale Branch (expected to open in 2006), as well as expansion of the J.S. Wood and the Alice Turner Branch Libraries. 2005 will also go down in record books as the year the last of the Library booktrailers retired, ending 42 years of booktrailer service to the community.

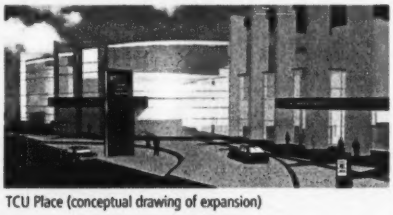
The Library continues to play a community role in hosting events such as the Saskatoon portion of the Lieutenant Governor's Celebration of the Arts: Libraries and Authors Centennial Tour.

Saskatoon Public Library remains committed to its community partners, working closely with the City, as well as community organizations such as READ Saskatoon and the Public Legal Education Association (PLEA).

TCU PLACE – SASKATOON'S ARTS AND CONVENTION CENTRE

New opportunities are being created for Saskatchewan's premier convention centre, formerly known as the Saskatoon Centennial Auditorium. The centennial year of 2006 will be the start of a new beginning including the title sponsorship to TCU Financial Group resulting in a new name, and the grand opening of the expansion including the addition of 52,000 sq. feet of conference space. Along with the recent renovation of the 2,000 plus soft seat Sid Buckwold Theatre, TCU Place will be a leading contender for the majority of conventions and conferences in the market.

2005 was a record financially for TCU Place, with the hosting of numerous conventions, theatrical productions, national and international entertainers, and local events and activities. We were proud to present the Broadway productions of Grease and Cats. We were also honoured with the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards, which was a spectacular showcase of leaders in the Aboriginal community. We hosted several large conferences including the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA), Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI), and Credit Union Central of Canada. We hosted a number of famous entertainers including Tommy Hunter, Kalan Porter,



TCU Place (conceptual drawing of expansion)

Bill Cosby, Theresa Sokyrka, Blue Rodeo, Sylvia Browne, Michael Buble, Paul Anka, George Jones, Don Williams, BB King, Jann Arden, Rita McNeil, Stuart McLean, and the Barenaked Ladies. Several local entertainers, associations and theatrical productions contributed to the exciting and very busy year at TCU Place. We are looking forward to the new opportunities that await our facility.

CREDIT UNION CENTRE

Credit Union Centre had another busy year in 2005 highlighted by the Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala which included a visit by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth and live, national television coverage.

Concert artists included Hilary Duff, Rod Stewart, Black Eyed Peas, Willie Nelson, Avril Lavigne, Billy Idol and Pearl Jam. The Saskatoon Blades had an improved regular season with higher attendance over the 2004-2005 season. Annual events like the

The Lieutenant Governor's Centennial Gala at Credit Union Centre

Saskatoon Sports and Leisure Show, Draggins Car Show, the F.S.I.N. Pow Wow and Sundog Arts and Entertainment Faire, drew great crowds once again.

Credit Union Centre's industry leading self-produced events continued to benefit the community through the fall Saskatoon Stampede Rodeo, Professional Bull Riding, A Taste of Saskatchewan, the AutoTrader MotorSport Spectacular and the nation's largest tribute to veterans, the national award winning Canada Remembers International Air Show. These self-produced events enhanced the facility's profitability and attracted over 150,000 patrons.

During 2005, both front lobbies and the box office were expanded to provide better service to our patrons upon entry into the facility. This project was entirely self-funded by the facility.

Financially, 2005 was another strong year as we exceeded budget. After loan payments and interest and meeting our standard equipment reserve requirement, the facility will have excess funds for either revenue stabilization or enhancement reserve purposes.